

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on March 6, 2019 the Department of Public Health Complex, 410--470 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in room 470 A/B.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Jennifer Long, APRN
Gina M. Reiners, RN

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jason Blando, Public Member
Elizaida Delgado, LPN
Mary Dietmann, RN
Geraldine Marrocco, RN

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Helen Smith Nurse Consultant, DPH
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, DPH
Mathew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH
Ralph Efird, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from the University of Connecticut, Central Connecticut State University, University of Saint Joseph and St. Joseph's College of Maine.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners to add a review of the Porter & Chester, Enfield, Connecticut campus to the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Chair Bouffard reported that she and Dana Dalton will be attending the 2019 NCSBN mid-year meeting that will be held in San Antonio, Texas March 26-28, 2019.

CHAIR UPDATES

Nothing to report

MINUTES

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve the minutes, as edited, from the January 16, 2019 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

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SCHOOL ISSUES

Lincoln Technical Institute – Approval of the Director of the Practical Nursing Program

Louise Simonetti and Annmarie Gambos were present on behalf of Lincoln Technical Institute. Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve Ms. Gambos as the Director of the Practical Nursing Program for Lincoln Technical Institute's New Britain Campus. The motion passed unanimously.

Stone Academy – Approval of Program Manager, West Haven Campus

Linda Dahlin and Donna Jones were present on behalf of Stone Academy. Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve Ms. Jones as the Program Manager for Stone Academy's West Haven Campus. The motion passed unanimously.

Western Connecticut State University

- Request for a temporary six month waiver

Jeanette Lupinacci was present on behalf of Western Connecticut State University. Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve a 6 month temporary waiver for Magdalena Szczerbacki, RN. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of Chair, Department of Nursing

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve Jeanette Lupinacci, EdD, RN as the Chair of the Department of Nursing. The motion passed unanimously.

Porter & Chester Institute

- Fiver Year Study Revision Review

Philip Krebs, Patricia Donovan, Maria Sparmer, Ann Sullivan, and Mary Ann Cirone were present on behalf of Porter & Chester Institute.

The Board considered revisions to a Five Year Study which was reviewed by the Board on September 19, 2018. Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners to accept the addendum to the Five Year Study. The motion passed unanimously

- Review of Campus Visits

Helen Smith provided a report that the Department of Public Health made random visits to various Porter & Chester sites in August and September 2018 to observe students and faculty. Various deficiencies were noted as a result of these site visits. Ms. Smith made return visit in February and additional deficiencies were noted. The Board commented that a plan to remediate teaching errors needs to be implemented for all students, especially for those students who will graduate in March 2019.

The Board will review this matter again at its April 17, 2019 meeting.

- Approval of Campus Supervisors

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve Mary Ann Cirone as the Campus Supervisor for Rocky Hill. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to approve Ann Sullivan as the Campus Supervisor for Enfield. The motion passed unanimously.

- Review of Enfield Campus

Helen Smith provided a report of a site visit conducted on March 1, 2019. Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve the relocation of Porter & Chester's Enfield Campus. The motion passed unanimously.

- Use of clinical sites in Massachusetts

Helen Smith provided a report that Porter & Chester Institute is no longer using three clinical sites, located in Massachusetts for clinical experiences by Enfield campus students. The Massachusetts Board of Nursing has provided documents to Porter & Chester Institute's Nursing Administration, on 02/20/2019, which includes information on the Massachusetts clinical sites and the students that completed hours at those sites. To date, the Massachusetts Board of Nursing has not refused any Porter & Chester Institute graduate an initial or reciprocal LPN license.

Goodwin College – Approval of Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree

Janice Watts and Patricia Morgan were present on behalf of Goodwin College.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve Goodwin College Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program. The motion passed unanimously.

University of Hartford

- Approval of Pre-Licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree

Cesarina Thompson and Susan Eichar were present on behalf of the University of Hartford.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to approve the University of Hartford's pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of Approval of the Dean of the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve Cesarina Thompson, PhD, RN as the Dean of the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions. The motion passed unanimously.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of nursing scope of practice inquires received by the Department of Public Health in January 2019.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Joseph Iannicelli, LPN - Petition No. 2017-26

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Mr. Iannicelli's licensed practical nurse license be placed on probation for four years. The motion was seconded by Gina Reiners and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Laura Kisatsky, RN - Petition No. 2018-691

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Kisatsky's registered nurse license be placed on probation for four years. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Despite this Order being approved, a January 16, 2019 Summary Suspension of Ms. Kisatsky's license in Petition No. 2018-1416 remains in effect.

Nicole Miller, LPN - Petition No. 2018-788

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Miller's licensed practical nurse license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Skye Muli, RN - Petition No. 2017 - 992

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Muli's registered nurse license be placed on probation for two years. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Melissa Tacket, RN - Petition No. 2018-158

Lisa Freeman moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Tacket's licensed practical nurse license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

MOTIONS FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Christine DeFusco, LPN - Petition No. 2019-85

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Christine DeFusco. Ms. DeFusco was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Gina Reiners moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension in that respondent's continued practice as a nurse is a clear and immediate danger to public health, safety and welfare.

The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing will be scheduled for April 17, 2019.

PREHEARING REVIEW

Myra Espanol, RN - Petition No.: 2018-126

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a pre-hearing review in the matter of Myra Espanol, RN. Attorney Elisabeth Pimentel was present on behalf of respondent.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Board recommended respondent complete courses pertaining to scope of practice, ethics, emergency first aid, and proper delegation to unlicensed assistive personnel, and that respondent's license be placed on probation for a period of two years with monthly employer evaluations.

CONSENT ORDERS

Ashley Dizney, RN, APRN - Petition Nos. 2018-707; 2018-709

Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Ashley Dizney, RN, APRN.

Ms. Dizney was present with Attorney Richard Brown.

Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Dizney's licenses on probation for four years. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Shamique Martin, RN - Petition No. 2018-720

Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Shamique Martin, RN.

Ms. Martin was present but was not represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long moved and Lisa Freeman seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Martin's license on probation for four months and imposes a reprimand. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Ellen Sollazzo, RN, APRN - Petition Nos. 2018-1222; 2018-1235

Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Ellen Sollazzo, RN, APRN.

Ms. Sollazzo was present with Attorney Catherine Nietzel.

Gina Reiners moved and Jennifer Long seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Sollazzo's licenses on probation for three years and imposes a reprimand. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Herbert Terry, III, LPN - Petition No. 2015-246

Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Herbert Terry, LPN.

Mr. Terry was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded, to approve the Consent Order. . Following discussion the motion to approve failed unanimously.

The Board recommends that language regarding attendance at support group meetings be added.

Beata Ventura, LPN, - Petition No. 2018-540

Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Beata Ventura

Ms. Beata was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Brown seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Ventura's license on probation for one year and imposes a reprimand. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

HEARINGS

Kathryn Ford, RN - Petition No. 2016-433

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, that the Board grant the Department of Public Health's oral motion to deem the allegations admitted based on an Answer to the Statement of Charges not being filed. The motion passed unanimously.

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Gina Reiners moved and Jennifer Long seconded that Ms. Ford be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Ford's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Yahchika Leonard, RN - Petition No. 2017-898

Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, that the Board grant the Department of Public Health's oral motion to deem the allegations admitted based on an Answer to the Statement of Charges not being filed. The motion passed unanimously.

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Gina Reiners moved and Jennifer Long seconded that Ms. Leonard be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Leonard's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Lunch 1:20 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.

Lourdes Mercado, LPN - Petition No. 2016-1279

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present but was not represented by counsel.

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded to enter executive session to take testimony pertaining to confidential treatment records. The motion passed unanimously. The Board entered executive session from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. No motions were made and no votes were taken in executive session.

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Mercado be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Mercado's license be placed on probation for a period of two years with the completion of course work in ethics, medication administration, and time management within the first six months. In addition, respondent must complete an eight hour supervised medication pass during the first three months of working as a nurse and shall have monthly employer evaluation reports submitted. This provision is tolled if respondent is not working as a nurse. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long left for the day at 2:45 p.m.

Dionne Brown, LPN - Petition No. 2016-519

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Due to the lack of a quorum fact-finding will occur at the April 17, 2019 Board meeting.

Presley Eze, LPN - Petition No. 2018-781

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Due to the lack of a quorum fact-finding will occur at the April 17, 2019 Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., Chair
Board of Examiners for Nursing